

September 1985, and had become infected with a dark brown smut-like fungus under the thin bark. In this powdery pabulum the beetles were very common (more than 50 individuals in a log 3 feet 6 inches long and 6 inches in diameter) along with several hundred specimens of *Enicmus brevicornis*.

Subsequently, both Mr. Allen and Professor J. A. Owen have informed me that when collecting in Windsor Forest, they found *S. separanda* under sycamore bark in company with the newly discovered *Cicones undatus*.

Sycamore was first introduced into Britain from the Continent some time in the 15th century, but it has not become a common tree until recently. Even now, it is associated with hedges, plantations and gardens, and although it is widespread and grows vigorously from seed, it cannot be considered as a major constituent of British woodland. Assuming there to be some relationship between the frequencies of plant-feeders and their specific food-plants, it is perhaps only now that sycamore-specific (or sycamore fungus-specific) insects can increase their ranges. (Alternatively, insects which feed on other plants but which *can* eat sycamore, may only now find enough sycamore to spread to.) *Enicmus brevicornis* is a case in point. Described as rare by all authorities until about 40 years ago, it is now extremely common on sycamore in gardens, hedges and woods. Future examination of sycamore may prove other species to be on the increase. RICHARD A. JONES, Garden Flat, 131 Chadwick Road, Peckham, London SE15 4PY.

LATE EMERGENCE OF *EREBIA EPIPHRON*(KNOCH) IN 1986 —

Almost certainly due to the generally cool weather conditions experienced for the greater part of the summer of 1986, the emergence of most butterflies in the west of Scotland was exceptionally protracted. The small mountain ringlet was particularly delayed, with fresh specimens being seen on the wing just below the 2769' summit of Beinn nan Imirean, near Crianlarich, as late as 9th August. J. MITCHELL, 22 Muirpark Way, Drymen, by Glasgow, G63 0DX.

XANTHOGRAMMA PEDISSEQUUM (HARRIS)(DIP.: SYRPHIDAE), BRED FROM A *LASIUUS NIGER* (L.) (HYM.: FORMICIDAE) NEST. — On 10.iv.1986 a fully grown larva of *X. pedissequum* was found in a gallery of a *L. niger* nest under a stone in an old limestone quarry adjacent to Old Sulehay Forest, Northamptonshire, TL 05-98-. This larva pupated a few days later and the adult emerged on 8.v.1986. Also in the nest were a number of root aphids, upon which the hoverfly larva may have fed. These were identified as *Forda formicaria* von Heyden by Dr. R. L. Blackman of British Museum (Natural History). It is of interest that Dixon (1960, *Trans R. ent. Soc. Lond.* 112: 354) also records *X. pedissequum* from a *L. niger* nest, but

in this instance the aphids in the nest were of a *Trama* sp. A. P. FOSTER, c/o Nature Conservancy Council, Northminster House, Peterborough, PW1 1UA.

EILEMA CANIOLA HUBN. (HOARY FOOTMAN) IN SW IRELAND — On 17th August 1986 at Baltimore Bay near Skibbereen, SW Ireland, a single *caniola* was attracted to m.v. light. According to Skinner *Colour Identification Guide to Moths of the British Isles* the only previous Irish record this century is by de Worms near Waterford in 1954. Other interesting species seen were: *Euxoa obelisca* D. & S., *Agrotis trux* Hb., *Standfussiana lucerneae* L., *Abrostola trigemina* Werneb., *Plusia festucae* L., *Eilema complana* L., *Selidosema brunnearia* Vill. and *Stilba anomala* Haw.

A week earlier (10th August) amongst rocky ground near Kilaboy, Co. Claire, 120 species of macrolepidoptera were recorded at m.v., the best being 3 *Acronicta euphorbia* ssp. *Myricae* Guen., 1 *Calamia tridens* ssp. *occidentalis* Cock., 8 *S. lucerneae*, 2 *A. trigemina*, 4 *Autographa bractea* D. & S., 3 *Setina irrorella* L., 60 *Lithosia quadra* L., 4 *Coenotephria salicata* ssp. *latentaria* Curt., 3 *Perizoma bifaciata* Haw., 2 *Catarhoe cuculata* Hufn., 6 *Gnophos obfiscatus* D. & S. and 10 *Aspitates gilvaria burrenensis* Cock. DAVID BROWN, Jacksons Drive, 25 Charlcote, nr. Warwick.

THE VOLTINISM OF CNEPHASIA CONSPERSANA DOUGL. (LEPIDOPTERA: TORTRICIDAE) IN THE INNER HEBRIDES. — *Cnephasia conspersana*, Douglas 1846, is a littoral and univoltine species throughout most of Britain but appears to be bivoltine in the Burren in Ireland. Two flight periods also seem to occur on the Isle of Coll in the Inner Hebrides. Imagines have been taken in the second half of July in three different years (i.e. 24.vii.1982, 19.vii.1985, 23.vii.1986) and a pupa found in the terminal shoot of *Cerastium fontanum* (common mouse-ear) on 19.vii.1985 emerged on 25.vii.1985. However a pupa found in spun leaves of *Trifolium pratense* (red clover) on 25.vii.1984 delayed its emergence until 17.viii.1984, while well-grown larvae collected on 19.vii.1985 (in seedpod of *Rhinanthus minor* (yellow rattle) and 21.vii.1985 (in the flowerhead of *Hypochoeris* sp.) emerged on 24 and 23.viii.1985 respectively. Thus on the Isle of Coll a tendency to two flight periods appears to be due to a univoltine species adopting two different emergence strategies. — K. P. BLAND, 35 Charterhall Road, Edinburgh EH9 3HS.

OBITUARY

Lionel George Higgins, MA., MD., FRCS., FRCOG., FRES

The death of Dr. Lionel Higgins on 9th October, 1985 at 94, was a very great loss to the worlds of entomology and medicine.